

Filed for intro on 02/26/98

SENATE RESOLUTION 86  
By Harper

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Reverend David Jones, Jr. on his service to God as a minister and his service to his fellow citizens as Assistant Superintendent of Personnel for the Metropolitan Nashville School System.

WHEREAS, the Tennessee General Assembly is proud to specially recognize inspirational ministers who served God faithfully and who work with extraordinary diligence and dedication to improve our school systems; and

WHEREAS, the Reverend David Jones, Jr., who has served admirably as the pastor of Schrader Lane Church of Christ since 1964 and who also serves with distinction as the Superintendent of Personnel for the Metropolitan Nashville School System, is one such rare individual; and

WHEREAS, a popular and highly regarded student, he received his Doctor of Education degree in Administration and Supervision from George Peabody College of Vanderbilt University, his Master of Science degree in Guidance and Counseling from Tennessee State University, took course work in Administration and Supervision at the University of Tennessee at Nashville, and received his Bachelor of Science degree with majors in Psychology and English from Tennessee State University; and

WHEREAS, before assuming his present position with the Metropolitan Nashville Davidson County School System, Dr. Jones served admirably as Guidance Counselor at Pearl

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Senior High School, 1964-1971; Assistant Principal, East Senior High School, 1971-1975; Principal, Meigs Junior High School, 1975-1981; Coordinator of Administrative Staff Development, 1981-1983; Director of Secondary Programs, 1983-1993; Assistant Superintendent Curriculum and Instruction, 1992-1994; Assistant Superintendent Instruction and Administration 1994-1996; and

WHEREAS, in each of these important and varied educational positions, Dr. David Jones has received considerable praise from faculty members, students, parents, supervisors and employees; and

WHEREAS, David Jones, Jr. began preaching under the guidance of Luke Shearry in 1955 in Bastrop, Louisiana; he conducted his first gospel meeting (Revival) in 1956 in Bastrop; and

WHEREAS, He attended and graduated as valedictorian of his class at the Nashville Christian Institute in 1958; and

WHEREAS, during his high school and college years, he preached regularly for churches in Crossett, Arkansas; Fountain Hill, Arkansas; Hohenwald, Petersburg, Belfast, and Mount Pleasant, Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, the year (1963) of his graduation from Tennessee State University, Jones came to the Jefferson Street Church of Christ in Nashville, Tennessee as an assistant minister. He became regular pulpit minister in 1964; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure as a minister of the gospel, Brother Jones has conducted more than 600 gospel meetings, workshops, seminars and training sessions throughout the United States and abroad. His favorite topics include: Congregational Development, Race Relations and African History, Leadership Development, Family and Marriage Enrichment, Creative Problem Solving, Parenting, Mentoring, and Educational Programs for Underserved Children; and

WHEREAS, as minister of the Schrader Lane (Jefferson Street) congregation, Reverend Jones worked to create a sense of organization and a Biblical mission for the church through strong preaching and a number of initiatives that included training; and

WHEREAS, in 1966, he participated in a 3-month preaching and teaching campaign in Nigeria, West Africa. This experience kindled his interest in the mission fields; and

WHEREAS, the church now sponsors a secondary school of 856 students in Nigeria, 12 Nigerian preachers and a school of preaching; and

WHEREAS, he has also structured a Peace Corps-type missions program in Belize in Central America which is being implemented by the church; and

WHEREAS, since 1964, the Schrader Lane Church of Christ has grown from 200 members to more than 1,200 members; the collection has grown from \$14,000 per year to over \$1,225,000 per year; from 2 employees to 19 and now has more than 35 distinct ministries.

WHEREAS, the Schrader Lane congregation sponsors its own senior citizens center; an award-winning day care program and kindergarten for 25 years; the largest scouting program in Middle Tennessee; a model tutoring program; a housing restoration program; conducts community sharing day; operates a food and clothing bank; a mentoring program; and numerous evangelism teams. The church is overseen by 6 elders and served by 20 deacons and 4 ministers; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Jones has served as the radio minister for Churches of Christ; as director of the Tennessee State Lectureship, as team member of Campus Evangelism Seminars, and as a board member of Southwestern Christian College.

WHEREAS, he has written feature articles for *20<sup>th</sup> Century Christian and Gospel Advocate*, conducted the first published "Race Relations Workshop" in 1966 and served as a writer of *20<sup>th</sup> Century Christian Bible School Quarterly*.

WHEREAS, in 1997, Reverend Jones was given the highest award granted by National Alliance of Black School Educators, "The Living Legends Award", and was the recipient of the

"Distinguished Educator of the Year" award given by Pan-Africa, an international consortium of African and American businessmen; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Jones has generously contributed his time and expertise to a long list of community activities as President of the American Cancer Society, as a member of the Board of Directors and committee chair of Junior Achievement of Nashville and Middle Tennessee, as a member of the Metro Council of Sun Trust Bank, as School System representative to the College Board, as a member of the Board of Directors of 100 Black Men of Middle Tennessee and the Governor's Task Force for Vocational Rehabilitation, and he has been a tireless worker for the Governor's Drug Alliance, Southwestern Christian College and ASCD; and

WHEREAS, Brother Jones is married to the former Mary Carolyne Rowe and they have two successful grown children: David Jones III and Carol Denise Phillips; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we pause in our deliberations to specially honor and commend Reverend David Jones, Jr. on his excellent service to his congregation and to the children and youth of Davidson County; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE-HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, That we honor and commend Reverend David Jones, Jr. and wish him well in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.